Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes on State Subjects to States

4623. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to improve Centre State relations through transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes on the, State Subjects to the States along-with funds;

(b) whether the schemes on Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) because of their being intrinsically related to State subject matters are going to be transferred to the States with funds and earmarking;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) In pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held in Feb, 1999, a committee of the NDC was set up on the Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission with members from both the States and the Centre. The Terms of the Reference of the Committee are:

1. To identify the CSS for retention by the Centre and those for transfer to the States/UTs and to classify all the CSS accordingly.
2. For those CSS which will be identified for transfer to the States/UTs, suggest the modalities of transfer including earmarking, the funding pattern, the time frame for the transfer and the monitoring mechanism.
3. In order to avoid future proliferation of CSS lay down the criteria for the introduction of new CSS.

The term of the committee is upto 30th June, 2002.